

# Art Serve

**A Universe of Support for the Arts World !**

August 2, 2005

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Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket Number 05-192

Dear Chairman Martin and Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, and Adelstein:

I write on behalf of ArtServe in support of the pending joint acquisition of Adelphia cable systems by Comcast Corporation and Time Warner, Inc.

ArtServe's is a nonprofit organization that strives to be South Florida's premier provider of programs, resources, facilities and training for the arts community. Through private and public funding, ArtServe has developed a series of programs aimed at strengthening and assisting local artists and nonprofit cultural groups to attain their artistic goals and enhance their missions. ArtServe has become a national model for other arts supporting organizations.

For the last 2 years, Comcast has been the title sponsor of our Celebration of Hispanic Heritage gallery exhibit and opening. Through Comcast's generous support, over 100 local Hispanic artists have had the opportunity to showcase their works, receive monetary awards and have gained publicity to promote their craft and careers. Each year this exhibit is expanded and enhanced to meet the demands of the Hispanic community.

ArtServe supports this transaction because we are convinced that it is in the public's interest and we have full confidence in the stewardship of Comcast based on its commitment to the communities they currently serve.

First, the transaction will help the economy by saving the jobs of a now bankrupt Adelphia. And both companies commitment to invest a combined \$800 million on infrastructure upgrades will stimulate growth and open opportunities to minority owned contractors to participate in this large venture.

For example, in South Florida alone, Comcast invested \$143.5 million in 2003 and 2004 to upgrade the systems it acquired from AT&T Broadband. Comcast's primary contractor for this massive upgrade was a Hispanic-owned enterprise headquartered in South Florida.

Secondly, Comcast has a strong record of diversity both in programming and hiring. Comcast has invested billions to ensure that all communities they serve receive the highest quality service and they have fought attempts by other companies to bypass minority communities when building out their services. Both companies feel strongly that everyone should have access to high quality cable service that is why they provide free cable service through the Cable in the Classroom program to many schools, libraries, and community centers in predominantly low-income areas.

For example, in its South Florida Region, Comcast has shown its commitment to meet the programming needs and interests of the Spanish speaking population. Shortly after it acquired AT&T Broadband in November 2002, Comcast set out to launch, promote and service a robust offering of Spanish-speaking programming at multiple levels of service. Pasted below is an illustration of Comcast's Spanish speaking programming in South Florida market. As you can see, Comcast's commitment to meet the diverse programming interests of our Spanish-speaking programming is compelling.

Channel	Programming	Level of Service
3	<u>WLTN (Univision)</u>	Basic 1
13	<u>WSCV (Telemundo)</u>	Basic 1
16	WAMI (Telefutura)	Basic 1
19	WGEN	Basic 1
20	WJAN	Basic 1
72	<u>Galavision</u>	Basic 2
80	TV Azteca	Basic 2
558	HBO Latino	Digital Premium
600	Utilísima	Cable Latino
601	<u>Discovery en Español</u>	Cable Latino
602	Fox Sports World en Español	Cable Latino
603	TVE Internacional	Cable Latino
604	CineLatino	Cable Latino
605	VHUno	Cable Latino
606	<u>MTV Español</u>	Cable Latino
608	CNN en Español	Cable Latino
609	<u>Toon Disney en Español</u>	Cable Latino
610	HTV Musica	Cable Latino
612	History en Español	Cable Latino

613	Cine Mexicano	Cable Latino
614	Casa Club	Cable Latino
619	Grandes Documentales	Cable Latino
620	Super Canal Caribe	Cable Latino
621	Canal Sur	Digital Classic
623	EWTN en Español	Digital Classic
625	Latin TV	Cable Latino
626	Gol TV	Cable Latino
627	TV Colombia	Cable Latino
629	TV Chile	Cable Latino
652	Canal 52 MX	Cable Latino
682	TV Globo Internacional	Premium

Third, communities will benefit from Comcast's commitment to the diverse multicultural markets it serves. Since arriving in South Florida in November 2002, Comcast has made significant investments within the South Florida communities. For example, Comcast's participation in ArtServe has supported the promotion of Hispanic artists through gallery exhibits and cable appearances. Their efforts have improved the careers of local artists and the sale of artwork.

Lastly, consumers will benefit from improved and reliable service from the two leading companies in the cable industry. Adelphia's five million customers will realize improvements in the delivery of service, quality of service, and will have more access to advanced services such as video on demand, high speed broadband, and VoIP.

ArtServe has full faith that Comcast Corporation's and Time Warner's acquisition of Adelphia will benefit consumers as well as their communities. We strongly support the acquisition of Adelphia by Time Warner and Comcast and urge the FCC to rule in its favor.

Sincerely,



Maureen Kohler  
Executive Director